

REMARKS

In response to the final Office Action dated September 4, 2008, claims 18, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, and 40 have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 1 – 3, 17, and 30 have been canceled. Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 18, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, and 40 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, and that claims 20, 23, 26, 29, 33, 36, 39, and 42 would also be allowable by virtue of their dependency. Thus, in light of the above amendments, Applicants submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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